Notice of Staff Workshops on the First Triennial Investment Plan for the Electric Program Investment Charge Program

The California Energy Commission staff will conduct a workshop to discuss the first triennial investment plan for the Electric Program Investment Charge Program. Energy Commission commissioners may attend the workshop.

August 2 and August 3, 2012
August 2, 2012 begins at 10:00 am.
August 3, 2012 begins at 9:00 am
CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
1516 Ninth Street
Hearing Room A
Sacramento, California
Wheelchair Accessible

Remote Access Available by Computer or Phone via WebEx™
(Instructions below)

A second two-day workshop will be held in Southern California in August to be noticed separately.

Agenda
The purpose of this workshop is to seek input from experts, stakeholders, and the general public on the development of a coordinated triennial investment plan covering 2012 through 2014 for administration of the Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) Program, as established by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) in Rulemaking 11-10-003. The investment plan will include:

- A mapping of the planned investments to grid operations/market design; generation; transmission; distribution; and demand-side management.
• Identification of the amount of funds to be devoted to each program area, policy justification for the funding allocation proposed, and the type of funding mechanisms to be used for each investment area.

• Eligibility criteria for award of funds, including any suggested limitations for funding per project, per awardee, matching funding requirements, etc., and other eligibility requirements.

• Metrics against which the investment plan’s success should be assessed.

• A recommended approach to intellectual property rights depending on the specific types of projects and funding proposed.

• How the investment plan addresses the principles articulated in Public Utilities Code Sections 740.1 and 8360.

At this workshop staff will solicit input on funding priorities and initiatives.

Staff will consider input from this workshop together with other public comments it receives to develop the First Triennial Investment Plan for Funds Administered by the California Energy Commission for the Electric Program Investment Charge Program.

Background

This workshop will provide and solicit information needed to develop the First Triennial Investment Plan for Funds Administered by the California Energy Commission for the Electric Program Investment Charge Program. The California Public Utilities Commission established the purposes and governance for the Electric Program Investment Charge in Decision 12-05-037 for Rulemaking 11-10-003 on May 24, 2012, available online at: http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/word_pdf/FINAL_DECISION/167664.pdf. In this decision, the CPUC designated the Energy Commission as one of four administrators of the program and required administrators to submit coordinated investment plans to the CPUC for consideration no later than November 1, 2012. The other designated administrators are Pacific Gas and Electric Company, San Diego Gas & Electric Company, and Southern California Edison Company, each of which are charged with administering a portion of the EPIC Program funding. PG&E, SCE and SDG&E are invited to this workshop to present an overview of their planning process and will be hosting coordinated workshops in mid August.

The portion of the EPIC Program administered by the Energy Commission will provide funding for applied research and development, technology demonstration and deployment, and market facilitation for clean energy technologies and approaches for the benefit of ratepayers of Pacific Gas and Electric Company, San Diego Gas & Electric Company, and Southern California Edison Company.

The CPUC plans to hold a proceeding to consider investment plans submitted by the four administrators. The current schedule anticipates EPIC Program administrators proposing investment plans to stakeholders in September 2012 and submitting investment plans to the CPUC on November 1, 2012, with a CPUC decision adopting or modifying the investment plans in May 2013.
The Energy Commission’s development work on the EPIC investment plan is being conducted in accordance with recent legislation, Senate Bill 1018 (Statutes of 2012, Chapter 39), and overlaps significantly with the Energy Commission’s broad authority under Public Resources Code Sections 25216 (c) and 25401. Senate Bill 1018 establishes the Electric Program Investment Charge Fund in the State Treasury to receive EPIC Program funding to be administered by the Energy Commission and authorizes the Energy Commission to use this funding as authorized by the CPUC and appropriated by the Legislature. (Pub. Resources Code § 25711.)

Public Resources Code Section 25216, subdivision (c), provides that in addition to other duties specified in Division 15 of the Public Resource Code, the Energy Commission shall “…carry out, or cause to be carried out, under contract or other arrangements, research and development into alternative sources of energy, improvements in energy generation, transmission, and siting, fuel substitution, and other topics related to energy supply, demand, public safety, ecology, and conservation which are of particular statewide importance.” (Pub. Resources Code § 25216, subd. (c).)

Public Resources Code Section 25401 directs the Energy Commission to “…continuously carry out studies, research projects, data collection, and other activities required to assess the nature, extent, and distribution of energy resources to meet the needs of the state, including but not limited to, fossil fuels and solar, nuclear, and geothermal energy resources.” and also directs that it “…carry out studies, technical assessments, research projects, and data collection directed to reducing wasteful, inefficient, unnecessary, or uneconomic uses of energy…” (Pub. Resources Code § 25401.)

Energy Commission staff will develop the First Triennial Investment Plan for Funds Administered by the California Energy Commission for the Electric Program Investment Charge Program with input and guidance from Energy Commission Chairman Robert B. Weisenmiller, in his capacity as the lead commissioner on research, development, and demonstration matters, and with input and guidance from Commissioner Carla Peterman, in her capacity as lead commissioner on renewable energy matters.

**Public Comment**

Oral comments. The staff will accept oral comments during the workshop. Comments may be limited to three minutes per speaker. Comments will become part of the public record used in the development of the EPIC investment plan.

Written comments. Written comments should be submitted to the Dockets Unit by August 10, 2012. Written comments will be also accepted at the workshop. All written comments will become part of the public record used in development of the EPIC investment plan. Additionally, written comments will be posted to the Energy Commission’s website.
The Energy Commission encourages comments by e-mail. Please include your name and any organization name. Comments should be in a downloadable, searchable format such as Microsoft® Word (.doc) or Adobe® Acrobat® (.pdf). Please include the docket number 12-EPIC-01 and indicate EPIC in the subject line. Send comments to:

docket@energy.ca.gov

If you prefer, you may send a paper copy of your comments to:

California Energy Commission
Dockets Office, MS-4
Re: Docket No. 12-EPIC-01
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA  95814-5512

Public Adviser and Other Commission Contacts

The Energy Commission’s Public Adviser’s Office provides the public assistance in participating in Energy Commission proceedings. If you want information on how to participate in this forum, please contact the Public Adviser’s Office at PublicAdviser@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-4489 (toll free at (800) 822-6228).

If you have a disability and require assistance to participate, please contact Lou Quiroz at lquiroz@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-5146 at least five days in advance.

Media inquiries should be sent to the Media and Public Communications Office at mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-4989.

If you have questions on the subject matter of this workshop, please contact Pam Doughman Pamela.Doughman@energy.ca.gov (916) 651-2934 or Erik Stokes Erik.Stokes@energy.ca.gov (916) 327-1399.

Remote Attendance

You may participate in this workshop through WebEx, the Energy Commission's online meeting service. Presentations will appear on your computer screen, and you may listen to audio via your computer or telephone. Please be aware that the workshop may be recorded.

To join a meeting:

VIA COMPUTER: Go to https://energy.webex.com and enter the unique meeting number: 927 450 996. When prompted, enter your name and the following meeting password: ch@t4epic.

The “Join Conference” menu will offer you a choice of audio connections:
1. To call into the meeting: Select "I will call in" and follow the on-screen directions.
2. International Attendees: Click on the "Global call-in number" link.
3. To have WebEx call you: Enter your phone number and click "Call Me."
4. To listen over the computer: If you have a broadband connection, and a headset or a computer microphone and speakers, you may use VoIP (Internet audio) by going to the Audio menu, clicking on "Use Computer Headset," then "Call Using Computer."

VIA TELEPHONE ONLY (no visual presentation): Call 1-866-469-3239 (toll-free in the U.S. and Canada). When prompted, enter the unique meeting number: 927 450 996. International callers may select their number from https://energy.webex.com/energy/globalcallin.php

VIA MOBILE ACCESS: Access to WebEx meetings is now available from your mobile device. To download an app, go to www.webex.com/overview/mobile-meetings.html.

If you have difficulty joining the meeting, please call the WebEx Technical Support number at 1-866-229-3239.

Availability of Documents

Documents and presentations for this workshop will be available online at: http://www.energy.ca.gov/research/epic/documents/

Date: July 17, 2012

Mail Lists:
EPIC, energypolicy, research, renewables, bioenergy, nshpcommunities, cleanenergyjobs and stakeholders identified in CPUC Decision 12-05-037 in Rulemaking 11-10-003.